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General Assembly

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Sixty-sixth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 19
Sustainable development

Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, Norway, Palau, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America and Uruguay: revised draft resolution

Agricultural technology for development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 64/197 of 21 December 2009 on agricultural technology for development,

Recalling also the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[1] Agenda 21,[2] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[3] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[4] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[5]

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[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992, vol. I, Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[2] Ibid., annex II.

[3] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[4] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[5] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

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Recalling further the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[6]

Recalling its resolution 65/178 of 20 December 2010 on agriculture development and food security,

Noting the previous work done by the Commission on Sustainable Development, in particular at its sixteenth and seventeenth sessions, highlighting the thematic focus on agriculture,

Acknowledging the work performed by the High-level Task Force on the Global Food Security Crisis, established by the Secretary-General in 2008, and specifically its call for increased investment, as appropriate, in the development of agricultural technology as well as for the transfer and use of existing technologies, on mutually agreed terms, especially for smallholder farmers, in particular rural women, and recalling the World Summit on Food Security, convened by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in Rome from 16 to 18 November 2009, and underlining the importance of advancing and implementing agricultural technologies,

Welcoming the commitments set out in the Joint Statement on Global Food Security, adopted in L'Aquila, Italy, on 10 July 2009,[7] which focused on sustainable agriculture development,

Recalling the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals, held from 20 to 22 September 2010, and its outcome document,[8] reaffirming its commitment to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, and recognizing the beneficial impact that the adoption of agricultural technologies can have for the achievement of many of those goals, including for eradicating extreme poverty and hunger, empowering women and ensuring environmental sustainability, while remaining concerned about the pace of progress to date in achieving those goals, particularly in the least developed countries and in Africa,

Taking note of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020[9] adopted at the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held in Istanbul, Turkey, from 9 to 13 May 2011, and recognizing the need to continue to work towards fulfilling the commitments made in the Programme of Action,

Acknowledging the importance of the upcoming United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development,

Stressing the critical role of women in the agricultural sector and their contribution to enhancing agricultural and rural development, improving food security and nutrition and eradicating rural poverty, and underlining the fact that meaningful progress in agricultural development necessitates, inter alia, closing the gender gap and ensuring that women have equal access to agricultural technologies, related services and inputs and all the necessary productive resources, as well as to

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[6] See resolution 60/1.

[7] Available from www.ifad.org/events/g8.

[8] See resolution 65/1.

[9] *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9-13 May 2011* (United Nations publication, Sales No. 11.II.A.1), chap. II.

education and training, social services, health care, health services and financial services and access to and participation in markets,

Acknowledging the role and work of civil society and the private sector in furthering progress in developing countries, in promoting the use of sustainable agricultural technology and the training of smallholder farmers, in particular rural women,

Considering the increasing need to innovate in agri-food chains in order to respond to the challenges posed by, inter alia, climate change, the depletion and scarcity of natural resources, urbanization and globalization, and recognizing that agricultural research and sustainable agricultural technologies can greatly contribute to agricultural, rural and economic development, the adaptation of agriculture and food security and nutrition and help to mitigate the negative impact of climate change, land degradation and desertification,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on agricultural technology for development;[10]

2. *Urges* Member States, relevant United Nations organizations and other stakeholders to strengthen efforts to improve the development of appropriate sustainable agricultural technologies and their transfer and dissemination under fair, transparent and mutually agreed terms to developing countries, especially least developed countries, in particular at the bilateral and regional levels, and to support national efforts to foster the utilization of local know-how and agricultural technologies, promote agricultural technology research and access to knowledge and information through suitable communication for development strategies and enable rural women, as well as men and youth, to increase sustainable agricultural productivity, reduce post-harvest losses and enhance food and nutritional security;

3. *Encourages* international, regional and national efforts to strengthen the capacity of developing countries, especially their smallholder farmers, in particular rural women, in order to enhance the productivity and nutritional quality of food crops, to promote sustainable practices in pre-harvest and post-harvest agricultural activities and to enhance food security and nutrition-related programmes and policies that take into consideration the specific needs of women and youth;

4. *Calls upon* Member States and relevant United Nations organizations and other stakeholders to mainstream gender into agricultural policies and projects and to focus on closing the gender gap to achieve equal access for women to labour-saving technologies, agricultural technology information and know-how, equipment, decision-making forums and associated agricultural resources to ensure that agriculture, food security and nutrition-related programmes and policies take into consideration the specific needs of women and youth;

5. *Underlines* the importance of supporting and advancing research in improving and diversifying crop varieties and seed systems as well as supporting the establishment of sustainable agricultural systems and management practices, such as conservation agriculture and integrated pest management, in order to make agriculture more resilient and, in particular, to make crops and farm animals, including livestock, more tolerant to diseases, pests and environmental stresses,

[10] A/66/304.

including drought and climate change, in a manner consistent with national regulations and relevant international agreements;

6. *Also underlines* the importance of the sustainable use and management of water resources to increase and ensure agricultural productivity, and calls for further efforts to develop and strengthen irrigation facilities and water-saving technology;

7. *Encourages* Member States, civil society and public and private institutions to develop partnerships to support financial and market services, including training, capacity-building, infrastructure and extension services, and calls for further efforts by all stakeholders to include smallholder farmers, in particular rural women, in planning and taking decisions about making appropriate sustainable agricultural technologies and practices available and affordable to them;

8. *Calls upon* Member States to include sustainable agricultural development as an integral part of their national policies and strategies, notes the positive impact that North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation can have in this regard, and urges the relevant bodies of the United Nations system to include elements of agricultural technology, research and development in efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, with a focus on the research and development of technology that is affordable, durable and sustainable and that can be easily used by and disseminated to smallholder farmers, in particular rural women;

9. *Requests* relevant United Nations organizations, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Fund for Agricultural Development, to promote, support and facilitate the exchange of experience among Member States on ways to augment sustainable agriculture and management practices, such as conservation agriculture, and increase the use of agricultural technologies that have a positive impact on the entire value chain, including technology for post-harvest crop storage and transportation, especially in pressing environmental circumstances;

10. *Underlines* the instrumental role of agricultural technology, agricultural research and technology transfer on mutually agreed terms, as well as the sharing of knowledge and practices, in furthering sustainable development and in achieving the Millennium Development Goals, calls, therefore, upon Member States and encourages relevant international bodies to support sustainable agricultural research and development, and in this regard calls for continued support to the international agricultural research system, including the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research and other relevant international organizations and initiatives;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

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Sixty-sixth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 19 (h)
Sustainable development: Harmony with Nature

Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Georgia, Honduras, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Nicaragua, Paraguay, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Syrian Arab Republic and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of): revised draft resolution

Harmony with Nature

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[1] Agenda 21,[2] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[3] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[4] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation").[5]

Recalling its resolutions 65/164 of 20 December 2010 and 64/196 of 21 December 2009 on Harmony with Nature and its resolution 63/278 of 22 April 2009, by which it designated 22 April as International Mother Earth Day,

Recalling also the 1982 World Charter for Nature,[6]

Recalling further its resolution 64/253 of 23 February 2010, entitled "International Day of Nowruz", and its resolution 65/309 of 19 July 2011, entitled "Happiness: towards a holistic approach to development",

[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992, vol. I, Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[2] Ibid., annex II.

[3] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[4] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[5] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[6] Resolution 37/7, annex.

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Taking note of the interactive dialogue of the General Assembly on Harmony with Nature, which was held on 20 April 2011 to commemorate International Mother Earth Day by discussing ways to promote a holistic approach to sustainable development in harmony with nature and sharing national experiences on criteria and indicators for measuring sustainable development in harmony with nature so as to advance the holistic thinking undergirding the concept of sustainable development,

Noting the first Peoples' World Conference on Climate Change and the Rights of Mother Earth, hosted by the Plurinational State of Bolivia in Cochabamba from 20 to 22 April 2010,[7]

Acknowledging the importance of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, to be held in Brazil in 2012,

Expressing its concern about documented environmental degradation and the negative impact on nature resulting from human activity, and recognizing the need to strengthen scientific knowledge on the effects of human activities on ecosystems,

Recognizing that gross domestic product was not designed as an indicator for measuring environmental degradation resulting from human activity and the need to overcome this limitation with regard to sustainable development and the work carried out in this regard,

Recognizing also the uneven availability of statistical basic data under the three pillars of sustainable development and the need to improve their quality and quantity,

Recognizing further that current consumption and production patterns worldwide are taking a heavy toll on the Earth and its resources, and that world consumption and production need to converge towards a sustainable range, with developed countries taking the lead, and with all countries benefiting from the process, taking into account the principles set out in the Rio Declaration on Environment including, inter alia, principle 7 on common but differentiated responsibilities,

Recognizing that many ancient civilizations and indigenous cultures have a rich history of understanding the symbiotic connection between human beings and nature that fosters a mutually beneficial relationship,

Recognizing also the work undertaken by civil society, academia and scientists in regard to signalling the precariousness of life on Earth, as well as their efforts to devise more sustainable models for production and consumption,

Considering that sustainable development is a holistic concept that requires the strengthening of interdisciplinary linkages in the different branches of knowledge,

1. *Takes note* of the second report of the Secretary-General on Harmony with Nature;[8]

2. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to convene, at the sixty-sixth session of the Assembly, an interactive dialogue, to be held at the plenary meetings to be convened during the commemoration of International Mother Earth

[7] See A/64/777, annexes I and II.

[8] A/66/302.

Day on 23 April 2012, with the participation of Member States, United Nations organizations, independent experts and other stakeholders, to discuss the scientific findings on how human activities are affecting the Earth's ecosystem;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to establish a trust fund for the participation of independent experts in the interactive dialogue and invites Member States and other relevant stakeholders to consider contributing to this fund;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue making use of the existing information portals on sustainable development maintained by the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and the Division for Sustainable Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat to gather information and contributions on ideas and activities to promote a holistic approach to sustainable development in harmony with nature being undertaken to advance the integration of scientific interdisciplinary work, including success stories on the use of traditional knowledge, and existing national legislation, taking into account that for this purpose a portal will have been launched by 2012;

5. *Notes* the ongoing preparatory process of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, to be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012;

6. *Encourages* all countries and the relevant bodies of the United Nations system to develop and strengthen the quality and quantity of basic statistical data on the three pillars of sustainable development and invites the international community and the pertinent bodies of the United Nations system to assist the efforts of developing countries by providing capacity-building and technical support;

7. *Invites* the relevant entities of the United Nations system to work with other relevant actors including non-governmental organizations, experts and the academic community, as appropriate, both to identify new ways and means to overcome the limitations of gross domestic product as an indicator with regard to sustainable development and to better measure the environmental degradation resulting from human activity;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

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Sixty-sixth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 19 (h)
Sustainable development: harmony with Nature

Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Eritrea, Georgia, Guyana, Honduras, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Lebanon, Nepal, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Seychelles, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of): revised draft resolution

Harmony with Nature

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[1] Agenda 21,[2] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[3] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[4] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[5]

Recalling its resolutions 65/164 of 20 December 2010 and 64/196 of 21 December 2009 on Harmony with Nature and its resolution 63/278 of 22 April 2009, by which it designated 22 April as International Mother Earth Day,

Recalling also the 1982 World Charter for Nature,[6]

* Reissued for technical reasons on 2 December 2011.

[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992, vol. I, Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[2] Ibid., annex II.

[3] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[4] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[5] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[6] Resolution 37/7, annex.

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Recalling further its resolution 64/253 of 23 February 2010, entitled "International Day of Nowruz", and its resolution 65/309 of 19 July 2011, entitled "Happiness: towards a holistic approach to development",

Taking note of the interactive dialogue of the General Assembly on Harmony with Nature, which was held on 20 April 2011 to commemorate International Mother Earth Day by discussing ways to promote a holistic approach to sustainable development in harmony with nature and sharing national experiences on criteria and indicators for measuring sustainable development in harmony with nature,

Noting the first Peoples' World Conference on Climate Change and the Rights of Mother Earth, hosted by the Plurinational State of Bolivia in Cochabamba from 20 to 22 April 2010,[7]

Acknowledging the importance of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, to be held in Brazil in 2012,

Expressing its concern about documented environmental degradation and the negative impact on nature resulting from human activity, and recognizing the need to strengthen scientific knowledge on the effects of human activities on ecosystems,

Recognizing that gross domestic product was not designed as an indicator for measuring environmental degradation resulting from human activity and the need to overcome this limitation with regard to sustainable development and the work carried out in this regard,

Recognizing also the uneven availability of statistical basic data under the three pillars of sustainable development and the need to improve their quality and quantity,

Reaffirming that fundamental changes in the way societies produce and consume are indispensable for achieving global sustainable development; all countries should promote sustainable consumption and production patterns, with the developed countries taking the lead and with all countries benefiting from the process, taking into account the Rio principles, including, inter alia, the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, as set out in principle 7 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,

Recognizing that many ancient civilizations and indigenous cultures have a rich history of understanding the symbiotic connection between human beings and nature that fosters a mutually beneficial relationship,

Recognizing also the work undertaken by civil society, academia and scientists in regard to signalling the precariousness of life on Earth, as well as their efforts to devise more sustainable models for production and consumption,

Considering that sustainable development is a holistic concept that requires the strengthening of interdisciplinary linkages in the different branches of knowledge,

1. *Takes note* of the second report of the Secretary-General on Harmony with Nature;[8]

[7] See A/64/777, annexes I and II.

[8] A/66/302.

2. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to convene, at the sixty-sixth session of the Assembly, an interactive dialogue, to be held at the plenary meetings to be convened during the commemoration of International Mother Earth Day on 23 April 2012, with the participation of Member States, United Nations organizations, independent experts and other stakeholders, to discuss the scientific findings on how human activities are affecting the Earth's ecosystem;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to establish a trust fund for the participation of independent experts in the interactive dialogue to be held at the plenary meeting to be convened during the commemoration of International Mother Earth Day on 23 April 2012, and invites Member States and other relevant stakeholders to consider contributing to this fund;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue making use of the existing information portals on sustainable development maintained by the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and the Division for Sustainable Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat to gather information and contributions on ideas and activities to promote a holistic approach to sustainable development in harmony with nature being undertaken to advance the integration of scientific interdisciplinary work, including success stories on the use of traditional knowledge, and existing national legislation, taking into account that for this purpose a portal will have been launched by 2012;

5. *Notes* the ongoing preparatory process of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, to be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012;

6. *Encourages* all countries and the relevant bodies of the United Nations system to develop and strengthen the quality and quantity of basic statistical data on the three pillars of sustainable development and invites the international community and the pertinent bodies of the United Nations system to assist the efforts of developing countries by providing capacity-building and technical support;

7. *Invites* the relevant entities of the United Nations system to work with other relevant actors including non-governmental organizations, experts and the academic community, as appropriate, both to identify new ways and means to overcome the limitations of gross domestic product with regard to sustainable development and to better measure the environmental degradation resulting from human activity;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

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Second Committee
Agenda item 26
Towards global partnerships

Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: revised draft resolution

Towards global partnerships

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/215 of 21 December 2000, 56/76 of 11 December 2001, 58/129 of 19 December 2003, 60/215 of 22 December 2005, 62/211 of 19 December 2007 and 64/223 of 21 December 2009,

Reiterating that sustainable development is a key element of the overarching framework for United Nations activities, in particular for achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and those contained in the Plan of implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[1]

Recalling the objectives formulated in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[2] notably the Millennium Development Goals, and the reaffirmation they received in the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[3] and the outcome document of the High-level Plenary Meeting on the Millennium Development Goals in 2010,[4] particularly in regard to developing partnerships through the provision of greater

[1] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.
[2] See resolution 55/2.
[3] See resolution 60/1.
[4] See resolution 65/1.

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opportunities to the private sector, non-governmental organizations and civil society in general so as to enable them to contribute to the realization of the goals and programmes of the Organization, in particular in the pursuit of development and the eradication of poverty,

Underlining the fact that cooperation between the United Nations and all relevant partners, including the private sector, shall serve the purposes and principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations, and shall be undertaken in a manner that maintains and promotes the integrity, impartiality and independence of the Organization,

Taking note of the further increase in the number of public-private partnerships worldwide,

Welcoming the contribution of all relevant partners, including the private sector, non-governmental organizations and civil society, to the implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations conferences and summits and their reviews in the economic, social, environmental and related fields, as well as the realization of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Emphasizing that the United Nations, together with the private sector and all other relevant partners, can contribute in multiple ways to addressing the obstacles confronted by developing countries in mobilizing the resources needed to finance their sustainable development and to the realization of the internationally agreed development goals,

Welcoming the efforts and encouraging further efforts by all relevant partners, including the private sector, to engage as reliable and consistent partners in the development process and to take into account not only the economic and financial, but also the developmental, social, human rights, gender and environmental implications of their undertakings and, in general, towards implementing corporate social and environmental responsibility, that is, bringing such values and responsibilities to bear on their conduct and policy premised on profit incentives, in conformity with national laws and regulations,

Recalling that the 2005 World Summit welcomed the positive contributions of the private sector and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, foundations and academia, in the promotion and implementation of development and human rights programmes, and also recalling that the 2005 World Summit resolved to enhance the contribution of non-governmental organizations, civil society, the private sector and other stakeholders in national development efforts, as well as in the promotion of the global partnership for development, and encouraged public-private partnerships in a wide range of areas, with the aim of eradicating poverty and promoting full employment and social integration,

Noting that private sector partnerships can play an important role in support of the humanitarian assistance activities of the United Nations system, taking into account the primary role of the affected State in the initiation, organization, coordination and implementation of such assistance within its territory,

Recognizing the contribution of the private sector to the provision of resources and expertise on the policy environment, technical programmes, advocacy and

communication, knowledge management and resource mobilization in many areas, in accordance with national legislation and development plans and priorities,

Noting that the financial and economic crisis, inter alia, has demonstrated the need for values and principles in business, including for sustainable business practices, and the promotion of full and productive employment and decent work for all, which in turn has led to broader private sector engagement in support of United Nations goals,

Reaffirming the principles of sustainable development, and underlining the need for a global consensus on the key values and principles that will promote sustainable, fair, equitable and sustained economic development, and that corporate social and environmental responsibility are important elements of such a consensus,

Recognizing the importance of promoting a gender perspective in global partnerships, welcoming in this context the establishment of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), and taking note with appreciation of the joint United Nations Global Compact/UN-Women initiative on women's empowerment principles,

Taking note with appreciation of the progress achieved in the work of the United Nations on partnerships, notably in the framework of various United Nations organizations, agencies, funds, programmes, task forces, commissions and initiatives, and taking note of the establishment of partnerships at the field level, entered into by various United Nations agencies, non-public partners and Member States,

Noting with appreciation the advancement of the concept of corporate social responsibility through the United Nations Global Compact,

Recognizing the vital role the United Nations Global Compact Office continues to play with regard to strengthening the capacity of the United Nations to partner strategically with the private sector in accordance with its General Assembly mandate to advance United Nations values and responsible business practices within the United Nations system and among the global business community,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[5] the report of the Joint Inspection Unit[6] and the note by the Secretary-General responding to that report;[7]

2. *Stresses* that partnerships are voluntary and collaborative relationships between various parties, both public and non-public, in which all participants agree to work together to achieve a common purpose or undertake a specific task and, as mutually agreed, to share risks and responsibilities, resources and benefits;

3. *Also stresses* the importance of the contribution of voluntary partnerships to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, while reiterating that they are a complement to, but not intended to substitute for, the commitment made by Governments with a view to achieving those goals;

4. *Further stresses* that partnerships should be consistent with national laws and national development strategies and plans, as well as the priorities of countries

[5] A/66/320.

[6] See A/66/137 and Corr.1.

[7] A/66/137/Add.1.

where their implementation takes place, bearing in mind the relevant guidance provided by Governments;

5. *Emphasizes* the vital role played by Governments in promoting responsible business practices, including providing the necessary legal and regulatory frameworks, where appropriate, and invites them to continue to provide support to United Nations efforts to engage with the private sector, as appropriate and bearing in mind the activities undertaken by United Nations Global Compact Local Networks;

6. *Recognizes* the vital role that the private sector plays in development, including through engaging in various partnership models and by generating decent employment and investment, giving access to and developing new technologies, as well as stimulating sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, while bearing in mind the need to ensure that their activities conform fully with the principle of national ownership of development strategies;

7. *Also recognizes* the need for effective accountability and transparency in the implementation of such public-private partnerships by the United Nations;

8. *Calls upon* the international community to continue to promote multi-stakeholder approaches in addressing the challenges of development in the context of globalization;

9. *Encourages* the United Nations system to continue to develop, for those partnerships in which it participates, a common and systemic approach, which places greater emphasis on impact, transparency, coherence, accountability and sustainability, without imposing undue rigidity in partnership agreements, and with due consideration being given to the following partnership principles: common purpose, transparency, bestowing no unfair advantages upon any partner of the United Nations, mutual benefit and mutual respect, accountability, respect for the modalities of the United Nations, striving for balanced representation of relevant partners from developed and developing countries and countries with economies in transition, sectoral and geographic balance, and not compromising the independence and neutrality of the United Nations;

10. *Also encourages* the United Nations system to continue to find innovative and additional ways to achieve lasting impact, by identifying and replicating successful partnership models and pursuing new forms of collaboration;

11. *Requests* United Nations Global Compact Local Networks to promote the Women's Empowerment Principles and to create awareness of the many ways in which business can promote gender equality in the workplace, marketplace and community;

12. *Underlines*, in this context, the importance of integrity measures as undertaken and advocated by the United Nations Global Compact;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to promote effective implementation of the revised United Nations guidelines for partnerships between the United Nations and the private sector, including through the effective implementation of the revised Guidelines on Cooperation between the United Nations and the Business Sector, thus promoting a culture of transparency and performance, and invites the Secretary-General to create an internal advisory group in the Secretariat, which will use innovative and cost-effective working methods to ensure coherent brand

management across the United Nations and to make recommendations on partnership best practices and lessons learned;

14. *Invites* the United Nations system, when considering partnerships, to seek to engage in a more coherent manner with private sector entities, including small and medium-sized enterprises, that support the core values of the United Nations as reflected in the Charter and other relevant conventions and treaties and that commit to the principles of the United Nations Global Compact by translating them into operational corporate policies, codes of conduct and management, monitoring and reporting systems;

15. *Encourages* the international community to strengthen global partnerships for the integration and implementation of the International Labour Organization Global Jobs Pact in partnerships, in accordance with national plans and priorities;

16. *Takes note with appreciation* of the convening of an annual Private Sector Forum since 2008;

17. *Also takes note with appreciation* of the introduction of the private sector track at the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held in 2011;

18. *Recognizes* the work of the United Nations Global Compact Local Networks, as well as the importance of cooperation between the United Nations system at the local level and the United Nations Global Compact Local Networks, to support, as appropriate and in a manner complementary to existing networks, the coordination and application of global partnerships locally;

19. *Acknowledges* the holding of annual meetings of United Nations system private sector focal points, which bring together United Nations entities to share best practices and lessons learned in order to improve partnerships and create conditions for effective scaling up;

20. *Notes* the progress made in further facilitating the collaboration between the United Nations and the private sector and enhancing transparency by launching the United Nations business website,[8] which links private sector resources with the needs of the United Nations system;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session a report on specific progress on integrity measures, on the implementation of the revised United Nations guidelines for partnerships between the United Nations and the private sector and on the strengthening of the United Nations Global Compact Local Networks.

[8] See business.un.org.